Tiki Wiki SEO, Sitemap Issue and Solution
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From Tiki Wiki versions 25.x to 27.0 the sitemap feature may generate an incorrect URL for submission to search engines. Specifically, the URL points to tiki-sitemap.php?file=sitemap-index.xml, which can cause errors when submitted to Google Search Console.

To use the sitemap feature, ensure the "Sitemap Protocol" is enabled:

1. Navigate to Settings → Control Panels → General Settings → Navigation Admin Panel (direct URL: /tiki-admin_sitemap.php).
2. Additional settings and explanations about the Tiki sitemap can be accessed via the gear icon (settings button) on the same page.

You will find the URL intended for submission to search engines, but it is incorrect. OpenSource Solutions provides a detailed guide on how to resolve this issue.
Future versions of Tiki (from Tiki27.1) introduce a new panel under Advanced → SEO Preferences

A sitemap is essential for attracting visitors from search engines to your website. However, if your site is an intranet or has restricted access, you don’t need to prioritize this feature, as it’s not relevant for private or internal use.

New SEO Preferences Panel Introduced in Tiki 27.1

Starting with Tiki 27.1, a new panel under Advanced → SEO Preferences centralizes management of Tiki's integrated SEO features. This panel provides granular control over various SEO settings, making optimization more accessible. However, some operations—such as publishing a direct URL for the sitemap—still require developer assistance and must be performed via shell commands on the server.

The issue with the Tiki Wiki Sitemap (from Tiki 25+ to Tiki 27.1)

Navigate to Settings → Control Panels → General Settings → Navigation Admin Panel -> Settings (direct URL: /tiki-admin_sitemap.php)

There, Tiki propose to submit your Tiki Wiki sitemap for processing by major search engines using the following URL:
https://YOURDOMAIN.com/tiki-sitemap.php?file=sitemap-index.xml

This URL is incorrect and fails to provide any value to search engines or your website’s visibility. Ensuring your sitemap URL is accurate is crucial for effective SEO. At OpenSource Solutions, we specialize in resolving such issues, helping you optimize your website to achieve maximum visibility and performance.

The impact

This is a significant issue because a properly updated sitemap is essential for search engine optimization (SEO). It helps search engines like Google to index your website effectively, ensuring all your content is discoverable and ranks well in search results. An outdated or incorrect sitemap can lead to relevant pages or contents to be missed by search engines, negatively impacting your website's visibility and traffic. OpenSource Solutions recommends using the correct URL for sitemap submission. (https://YOURDOMAIN.com/storage/public/sitemap-index.xml)

Why This Matters

A properly updated sitemap is critical for effective search engine optimization (SEO). It enables search engines like Google to index your website accurately, ensuring that all your content is discoverable and ranks well in search results. An outdated or incorrect sitemap can result in important pages being overlooked, harming your website's visibility and reducing traffic.

Temporary workaround (Google Search Console Sitemap Settings)

You should use the following URL to successfully submit your Sitemap:
https://YOURDOMAIN.com/storage/public/sitemap-index.xml

To ease the explanation , here the steps to update correctly your Google Search Console Sitemap settings:

1. Copy the correct URL provided above.
2. Log in to Google Search Console for your website.
3. Navigate to the Sitemaps section and submit the copied URL.
4. Change "YOURDOMAIN.com" for your real domain where your Tiki is published.
5. Refresh the page (this may take multiple attempts) to confirm the sitemap status updates to "Success."

Automate the Process

While you can manually rebuild your sitemaps via the "Sitemap" admin panel, this can be time-consuming and easy to forget. At OpenSource Solutions, we leverage the Tiki Scheduler to provide an integrated, efficient, and well-controlled solution tailored to your needs.'', we recommend automating this process by:

1. Use and enable the Tiki Scheduler feature.
2. Check or Add the appropriate server's cron job to automatically run the Tiki Scheduler.

The benefit of having the perfect Sitemap

Keeping your sitemap updated is just one aspect of a robust SEO strategy. To unlock the full potential of your Tiki Wiki website and maximize its visibility, consider partnering with OpenSource Solutions.

Our Enterprise-Grade Services Include:

- Weekly and monthly checks your server and Tiki Wiki website remains optimized and up-to-date.
- Helping you define what content should or should not be indexed to align with your SEO goals.
- Configuring and optimizing your website settings for SEO.
- Review pages and files fields to improve search relevancy
- Integrate these values to generate the best possible sitemaps.
- Implementing automated solutions to maintain your website’s SEO effortlessly.

A properly updated sitemap is just one aspect of good SEO and website maintenance. For further optimization and maximizing your website's potential, consider consulting with OpenSource Solutions and contact us today to discuss how we can support your system or website’s with first class services.